

REMARKS

In response to the § 112 rejection, the phrase “general access password” has been changed to “first password”, and “password” has been changed to a “second password”. Withdrawal is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 18 stand rejected under § 103 on the basis of Hideo. Independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to overcome this rejection, and withdrawal is respectfully requested.

According to the description in the specification, the contents of claim 1 as amended supported the following two situations: (1) when an access authorization is requested by entering a password, the entered password is compared with the second password, and when the two passwords are in agreement, an authorization is issued; and (2) when an access authorization is requested without entering a password, the first password and the second password are compared, and when the two passwords are in agreement, an authorization is issued.

As seen in the translation of Hideo, Hideo uses a password number IPIN and a password number PIN. The password number IPIN is written in the IC card upon shipment. When a user having received the IC card enters a password number IPIN obtained through another route from the calculator, it is read out from the IC card for comparison, and if there is consistency, the user is allowed to register the password number PIN.

When the user enters his/her password number PIN, data Xi intrinsic to the IC card read out through adapter-connection of the IC card 8 is registered in the password information memory 12 of the calculator, and the same data is also registered in the IC card. This achieves a state permitting use of the IC card.

While Hideo has no description about the use of the IC card 8 after the completion of registration of the password number PIN, he seems to anticipate the usual practice, upon entering the password number by setting it in a bank terminal, of comparing the entered password number with a password number stored in the card, and when the two numbers are in agreement, the user is allowed to withdraw cash.

Hideo's feature lies in that, when the user forgets his/her password number PIN, the password number PIN is displayed by setting the IC card 8. That is, by connecting the IC card 8 to the adapter 7 of the calculator 1, the data Xi intrinsic to the card of the IC card 8 is read out. The password number PIN1 corresponding to the card-intrinsic data Xi of the password information memory 12 of the calculator is read out, sent to the IC card 8, and compared with the password number PIN of the IC card 8. If in agreement, the password number PIN is displayed on the calculator 1 and the user is permitted to watch the display for five seconds.

Hideo has two password numbers including a password number IPIN and a password number PIN, but has no mechanism relating to claim 1 of determining possibility to

issue an access authorization by comparing the password number IPIN and password number PIN.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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